E/2015/28/Add.1
E/CN.7/2015/15/Add.1

United Nations

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Report on the reconvened fifty-eighth session (9-11 December 2015)

Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2015
Supplement No. 8A

E/2015/28/Add.1
E/CN.7/2015/15/Add.1

Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2015
Supplement No. 8A

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Report on the reconvened fifty-eighth session (9-11 December 2015)

United Nations • New York, 2016

Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

ISSN 0251-9941

[24 December 2015]

Contents

		Page
I.	Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention	1
A.	Draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council	1
	Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-eighth session	1
B.	Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council	1
	Resolution 58/12 Budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme	1
	Decision 58/16 Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016	5
II.	Special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016	7
A.	Opening of the special segment	7
B.	Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016	7
C.	Provisional agenda for the special segment to be held by the Commission during its fifty-ninth session, in March 2016, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, and the organization of the intersessional work of the Commission	10
D.	Outcome and closure of the special segment	11
III.	Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions	12
A.	Deliberations	13
B.	Action taken by the Commission	15
IV.	Implementation of the international drug control treaties	16
	Deliberations	16
V.	Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission	18
A.	Deliberations	18
B.	Action taken by the Commission	18
VI.	Other business	19
VII.	Adoption of the report of the Commission on its reconvened fifty-eighth session	20
VIII.	Organization of the session and administrative matters	21
A.	Opening and duration of the session	21

B. Attendance 21
C. Documentation 22
D. Closure of the reconvened fifty-eighth session 22

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft:

Draft decision

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-eighth session

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-seventh session.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

2. The attention of the Economic and Social Council is drawn to the following resolution, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened fifty-eighth session, and to the action taken pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46/185 C, in section XVI of which the Assembly authorized the Commission to approve the programme budget for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme:

Resolution 58/12

Budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Exercising the administrative and financial functions entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/185 C, section XVI, paragraph 2, of 20 December 1991,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime containing the proposed budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme[1] and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling that article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations emphasizes the paramount consideration of efficiency, competence and integrity with regard to the

[1] Contained in E/CN.7/2015/17-E/CN.15/2015/20.
[2] E/CN.7/2015/18-E/CN.15/2015/21.

recruitment of staff and that due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible,

Noting with concern the lack of diversity, in particular equitable geographical representation, within the staff of the Office and emphasizing that the Office, both at headquarters and in the field, should take more effective measures to ensure the recruitment of a diverse pool of candidates,

Recognizing that the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the goal of equal representation of women in the composition of the Secretariat do not conflict with the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, namely the necessity of securing the highest standard of efficiency, competence and integrity as set out in article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 69/251 of 29 December 2014, in which the Assembly, inter alia, noted with disappointment the insufficient progress made with regards to achieving the goal of a 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations common system, especially in the Professional and higher categories, and requested the International Civil Service Commission to encourage the organizations of the common system to fully implement existing gender balance policies and measures,

Recognizing the normative functions supported by the Office as part of the Secretariat of the United Nations and stressing the importance of technical assistance, within the mandate of the Office, provided to Member States upon their request and for these purposes, the importance of adequate, predictable and stable funding,

Emphasizing that the provisional implementation of the new funding model should, inter alia, not hinder the field operations of the Office or affect delivery,

Underlining the importance of contributions made by Member States, as well as regional and other intergovernmental organizations, and all other donors,

1. *Notes* the progress made in the development of the thematic and regional programme approach to the programme of work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and in ensuring the full complementarity of the thematic, global, regional and country programmes;

2. *Also notes* that the budget is based, inter alia, on the strategy detailed under programme 13 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017;[3]

3. *Further notes* that the budget is harmonized with sections 16 and 29G of the proposed programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2016-2017;[4]

4. *Notes* that the budget focuses on general-purpose funds and also includes special-purpose funds and programme support cost income earned on special-purpose contributions, as well as regular budget resources;

5. *Also notes* that the general-purpose resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime

[3] A/69/6/Rev.1.
[4] A/70/6 (Sect. 16) and (Sect. 29G).

Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that general-purpose expenditure will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

6. *Further notes* that the budget should clearly distinguish between general-purpose funds and programme support cost funds and harmonize the use and management of these two fund categories across the two funds of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and stresses the importance of a clear and explicit approach to the application of programme support cost charges and their allocation;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to strengthen its efforts to further encourage Member States and other interested donors to provide general purpose funding, including by means of further increasing the transparency and quality of reporting;

8. *Notes* that the programme support cost resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that programme support cost will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

9. *Requests* the Secretariat to take into account, when preparing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, as well as in future programme budgets, the need to ensure posts funded through regular budget resources are appropriately aligned with the Office's treaty-based functions and its core mandates, and to regularly brief Member States at its reconvened sessions on this aspect of the budget proposal;

10. *Requests* the Secretariat to brief Member States regularly on the impact of the implementation of Umoja on the delivery of the Office's programmes in the field, as well as on the generation of programme support cost funds and full cost recovery funds, and the Office's efforts to mitigate that impact;

11. *Notes* that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime can allocate programme support cost funds to the field offices, as appropriate, and requests the Office to continue to explore how to best apply programme support cost to field offices;

12. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to ensure in his reports on the consolidated budget for future bienniums greater transparency and accountability, provide more detailed, timely and structured information and attach appropriate visibility to the contributions and the contributors, including Member States, as well as regional and other intergovernmental organizations and other donors and financing partners;

13. *Requests* the Secretariat to consult with interested Member States before cancelling funded and mandated programmes;

14. *Approves* the projected use of general-purpose funds in the biennium 2016-2017, and invites Member States to provide contributions totalling at least 6,968,900 United States dollars;

15. *Endorses* the programme support cost funds and special-purpose estimates as indicated below:

Resource projections for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Fund category	*2014-2015 (revised budget)*	*2016-2017*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
General-purpose funds				
Post	10 430.9	6 539.7	30	21
Non-post	758.8	429.2		
Subtotal	**11 189.7**	**6 968.9**	**30**	**21**
Special-purpose funds	323 384.7	261 249.9	118	130
Subtotal	**323 384.7**	**261 249.9**	**118**	**130**
Programme support cost funds				
Post	19 054.6	18 811.1	93	71
Non-post	4 826.0	4 662.6		
Subtotal	**23 880.6**	**23 473.7**	**93**	**71**
Total	**358 455.0**	**291 692.4**	**241**	**223**[a]

[a] The calculated total of posts reflects the rounding to whole numbers of the posts and time periods concerned.

16. *Notes* that the resource projections estimated above are subject to the availability of funding;

17. *Reiterates* that the Commission should continue to assess the provisional implementation by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of full cost recovery in the biennium 2016-2017 with regard to efficiency, feasibility and the impact on the integrity and cost of the Office's field offices and projects;

18. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to hold, on an ongoing basis, consultations with Member States on all issues on the budget including issues related to full cost recovery and on programme support costs, including the criteria for their allocation and the impact of the new funding model on the Office's ability to deliver technical assistance to Member States upon their request;

19. *Further requests* that the Secretariat provides budgets for future bienniums to Member States no later than one month prior to their submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

20. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 65/247 of 24 December 2010, in which the Assembly reiterated its requests to the Secretary-General to present proposals to effectively increase the representation of developing countries in the Secretariat, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, while upholding article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, to intensify its efforts to ensure the recruitment of staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in particular in the Professional and higher categories, by, inter alia, intensifying

outreach efforts, and to report on the progress thereon to the Commission at its next session;

21. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to intensify the efforts of the Office to achieve the goal of a 50/50 gender balance within the Professional and higher categories, including for field representatives, while upholding article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts, and to report on the progress of such measures to the Commission at its next session;

22. *Remains fully committed* to increasing the effectiveness of the delivery of the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and reaffirms the need to engage in thorough consultations with relevant actors, including beneficiary countries, in advance of any possible changes to the field presence of the Office;

23. *Reiterates* that full cost recovery cannot be applied retroactively except through bilateral agreements between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the relevant donors, taking into account, as appropriate, the views of recipient countries.

Decision 58/16

Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

Pursuant to paragraph 3 (f) of General Assembly resolution 70/181 of 17 December 2015, in which the Assembly decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, should address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation, for the five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables to be conducted during the special session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided on the following arrangements for the round tables:

(a) The five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables shall be scheduled as follows:

(i) 19 April 2016, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.;

(ii) 20 April 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.;

(iii) 21 April 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.;

(b) All States Members of the United Nations, as well as observer States and observers, including relevant international organizations with observer status and entities of the United Nations system, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders participating in the special session in accordance with resolution 70/181, paragraph 3 (e), are invited to participate in the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables;

(c) Member States, observer States and observers are encouraged to consider being represented at the special session at the highest possible level;

(d) The interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables shall be co-chaired by two representatives of two different regional groups — one of the co-Chairs should be a member of the Board tasked by the Commission with preparations for the special session and the other co-Chair shall be from a different regional group, to be nominated by the respective regional group at United Nations Headquarters and appointed by the President of the General Assembly;

(e) Each round table shall consist of a panel composed of five panellists to be nominated by the regional groups and one panellist nominated by the civil society task force for the special session; the panel could further include up to two speakers from the entities of the United Nations system. The final list of the panellists and other speakers will be drawn up by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in consultation with the President of the General Assembly;

(f) The interventions by the panellists shall be followed by an interactive discussion and, in order to accommodate as many speakers as possible, interventions by the panellists shall be limited to a maximum of five minutes, and interventions from the floor shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes;

(g) A summary of the salient points raised during the round tables will be prepared by the chairs of those round tables, to be presented at the plenary;

(h) These summaries of the salient points by the chairs, as read out in plenary meeting, will be included in their entirety in the verbatim records of the plenary meetings of the special session, as per the standard procedures of the special sessions.

Chapter II

Special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

A. Opening of the special segment

3. At the 1st, 2nd and 5th meetings, the special segment of the reconvened fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held under item 8, entitled "Preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016". The special segment was opened by the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission, in its decision 57/2, with the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

4. At its 1st meeting, the Commission adopted the programme of work for the special segment, as contained in documents E/CN.7/2015/1/Add.1 and E/CN.15/2015/19.

5. At the opening, statements were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the President of the International Narcotics Control Board. Statements were also made by the representative of South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), the representative of Luxembourg (on behalf of States members of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine), as well as by the Vice-Minister of Justice of Colombia, the Deputy Minister of the Interior of Bulgaria, the Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico, the National Secretary on Drug Policies of Brazil and the Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection of Austria.

6. For its consideration during the special segment, the Commission had before it the note by the Secretariat on the organization of the special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (E/CN.7/2015/19).

B. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

7. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, the Commission considered item 3 of the agenda of the special segment, entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016".

8. Statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, Morocco, Peru, Italy, Romania, New Zealand, Tunisia, Norway, Australia, Belgium, Portugal, Thailand, China, Indonesia, Angola, the Republic of Korea, El Salvador, Israel, Algeria, Afghanistan, Singapore, Uruguay, Pakistan, Philippines, France, Sweden, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nigeria, Iraq, the United States of America, Cuba, Ecuador and Brunei Darussalam.

9. Observers for Amnesty International and the International Drug Policy Consortium made statements. A statement was also made by the Chair of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs and the Civil Society Task Force on Drugs.

10. Many speakers highlighted the important work done by the Commission in leading the preparatory process for the special session. Appreciation was also expressed for the efficient efforts undertaken and leadership provided by the Board tasked with the preparations for the special session.

11. Several speakers emphasized that the special session would provide a unique opportunity to review progress made in the implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in addressing the world drug problem. Several speakers also noted that the special session would allow the international community to elaborate on the significant challenges in the context of the national, regional and global responses to the world drug problem and to identify feasible, practical and sustainable longer-term operational recommendations in the framework of the conventions. A number of speakers noted that the participation in the special session should be at the highest possible level.

12. Many speakers recalled General Assembly resolution 70/181 and reiterated support for the preparation of a substantive, concise and action-oriented document comprising a set of operational recommendations, based upon a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements, as well as ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments. Many speakers commended the "elements" paper that contained concrete recommendations and provided a good basis for the preparation of an initial "zero" draft of the outcome document for the special session, which would then be the subject of negotiations starting in January 2016. A number of proposals were made on the draft outcome document, in terms of structure and content. Speakers noted that the outcome document of the special session should be finalized prior to or at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission.

13. Reference was made by a number of speakers to the proposals for the organization of the five round tables to be held during the special session, and a number of speakers recalled that, in line with the Assembly resolution 70/181, a summary of the salient points made during those round tables would be prepared by the chairs of the round tables, and will be presented in a plenary meeting of the special session.

14. Many speakers called for an evidence-based, balanced, integrated and comprehensive approach to the world drug problem, which was a common and shared responsibility. They also reaffirmed their commitment to the three international drug control conventions, which constituted the cornerstone of the international drug control system. It was also noted that there was sufficient scope and flexibility within the conventions to accommodate a variety of national approaches. Reference was made to the importance of other relevant international legal instruments and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in addressing the world drug problem. A number of speakers noted that there was no "one size fits

all" solution to address the world drug problem and that a broad, open debate was needed.

15. Several speakers expressed support for the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the United Nations organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters and in leading the preparatory process for the special session and for the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for assisting Member States in countering the world drug problem. Support was also expressed for the important role of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and International Narcotics Control Board. The need to continue to ensure an inclusive preparatory process for the special session, including with the most effective involvement of all relevant United Nations agencies and bodies, and relevant international and regional bodies with recognized expertise was noted as well.

16. Many speakers highlighted the importance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the application of the relevant human rights instruments and a people-centred approach in addressing the world drug problem. It was noted that the fundamental goal of the international drug control conventions was to ensure the health and welfare of humankind by ensuring that narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances were available for medical and scientific purposes in adequate amounts and that high priority was accorded to demand reduction measures, which should be balanced with interdiction and enforcement efforts.

17. A number of speakers reaffirmed their strong opposition to the use of the death penalty in all circumstances, including for drug-related offences, as well as the abolition of other practices which were not in line with human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, solidarity, the rule of law and human rights, and called for a moratorium on the death penalty. A number of speakers referred to the importance of proportionality of sentencing and alternatives to incarceration. Other speakers stressed that national sovereignty and territorial integrity should be respected and that sentencing for drug-related offences should be determined by the national legislation and the crime prevention and criminal justice systems of States.

18. The importance of further enhancing efforts to ensure the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion and abuse, was highlighted by many speakers, some of whom also noted that this issue should be a priority at the special session.

19. Speakers called for a balanced approach to supply and demand reduction policies, which also included a gender perspective. The need for evidence-based prevention measures was stressed. Reference was made to the increasing recognition by many States that drug addiction was also a public health rather than solely a law enforcement issue. Several speakers stressed the need to guarantee access to comprehensive, evidence-based drug demand reduction services that included primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery and social reintegration. A number of speakers noted the need to introduce and implement harm reduction measures.

20. A number of speakers urged a cautious approach to calls for legalization and decriminalization of certain drugs in some regions of the world and noted that such proposals, which were contrary to the spirit and the letter of the three international

drug control conventions, would weaken the global efforts to address the drug problem.

21. The need to address the linkages between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, money-laundering, terrorism and its financing, corruption and violence were stressed by several speakers.

22. The importance of strengthening international cooperation, including mutual legal assistance, extradition and intelligence-sharing, in particular in addressing new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, was highlighted by several speakers. It was noted that the special session would provide a useful opportunity to address emerging challenges such as new psychoactive substances, which posed an increasingly serious threat to societies. The value of innovative approaches to dealing with new psychoactive substances was noted, and support was expressed for the efforts of UNODC to enhance the collection of data on those substances, including through the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme.

23. A number of speakers called for increased technical and financial assistance to transit States and developing countries in enhancing their capacities to address the world drug problem.

24. Speakers highlighted the recent adoption of Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and noted its importance in the context of addressing the world drug problem. Reference was made to the outcome of the Second International Seminar Workshop and Conference on Alternative Development, held on 19-24 November 2015, and to the need to place alternative development efforts in a broader development context. The importance of well-designed alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, was also highlighted.

25. Speakers stressed the importance of participatory approaches and cooperation with, and the role of civil society, scientific community, academia and other relevant stakeholders in, the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of drug policies at the national, regional and international levels.

C. Provisional agenda for the special segment to be held by the Commission during its fifty-ninth session, in March 2016, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, and the organization of the intersessional work of the Commission

26. The Chair recalled that, in its resolution 58/8, the Commission had decided that it would hold up to eight meetings devoted to the special segment at its fifty-ninth session in March 2016. The Commission decided that the first three days (six meetings) of the fifty-ninth session would be fully devoted to the special segment on the preparations for the special session, namely 14 to 16 March 2016. It was noted that the preliminary agenda for the special segment was contained in Commission decision 58/15.

27. Furthermore, the Commission decided that it would hold intersessional meetings in January and February 2016, which would be complemented by informal

consultations with the view to advancing work on the outcome document of the special session. The concrete dates for those meetings and consultations will be determined at a later date in consultation with Conference Management Service.

D. Outcome and closure of the special segment

28. At its 5th meeting, on 11 December 2015, the Commission adopted a draft decision entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016" (E/CN.7/2015/L.16), as amended. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. B, decision 58/16.) Upon the adoption of the decision, the representative of Colombia made an interpretative statement to note her delegation's understanding that, in subparagraph (d), using "should be" means "optional". The representative of Mexico stated that his delegation adhered to that interpretative statement.

Chapter III

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

29. At the 3rd meeting of the reconvened fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held jointly with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on 10 December 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 3, which read as follows:

> "Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:
>
> "(a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
>
> "(b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:
>
> "(i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
>
> "(ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;
>
> "(c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters."

30. For its consideration of item 3, the Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2015/6/Add.1-E/CN.15/2015/6/Add.1);

(b) Report of the Executive Director on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2015/17-E/CN.15/2015/20);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2015/18-E/CN.15/2015/21);

(d) Conference room paper on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2015/CRP.8-E/CN.15/2015/CRP.8).

31. The Director of the Division for Management and the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs of UNODC made introductory statements. The representative of Spain, in his capacity as co-chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, also made an introductory statement.

32. Statements were made by the observers for Chile (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Luxembourg (on behalf of the States members of the European Union). Statements were also made by the representatives of Mexico, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Brazil, Turkey, China, Italy, Canada, the United States, Japan, Colombia, Angola, Nigeria and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Statements were also made by the observers for Sweden and Ecuador.

A. Deliberations

33. Many speakers expressed their appreciation for the work done within the framework of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the financing and governance and the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and commended the leadership of the co-chairs of the working group. It was noted that the working group provided an appropriate forum for discussions on UNODC programme development and implementation through a process of consultation and review, thereby strengthening trust, transparency and effectiveness, and deepening the understanding and enhancing the communication between Member States and the Office. Support was expressed for the vital oversight roles played by the two Commissions as governing bodies.

34. Several speakers welcomed the consolidated budget for being realistic and in line with the strategy for the Office. UNODC was requested to ensure the timely submission to Member States of reports on the consolidated budgets for future bienniums.

35. The increase in special-purpose contributions was welcomed as a sign of donors' recognition of UNODC capacities in implementing projects. However, concern was expressed regarding the continuing decline in general-purpose resources, with such core resources being the most important vehicle for the implementation of the Office's strategy, the exercise of effective corporate oversight and the launch of new initiatives and programmes.

36. The need for UNODC to deliver as "One United Nations" and to strengthen cooperation between United Nations funds and programmes at all levels, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, was emphasized.

37. Several speakers recognized that full cost recovery enhances transparency and cost efficiencies, and supported the extension to the end of 2017 of the transition towards the new funding model, including reporting on results and lessons learned. It was recognized that UNODC had maintained a realistic pace of transition to the new funding model, without unduly compromising the effectiveness of its programme delivery and the integrity of its field office network. Concern was expressed regarding the sharp increase in the rate of full cost recovery for the next

biennium. Reference was also made to the work of the interdivisional Senior-Level Full Cost Recovery Monitoring Committee.

38. Speakers expressed the view that the use of the programme support cost funds should not be limited to UNODC headquarters and that it should continue to fund some field office costs. Some speakers reaffirmed the need to engage in thorough consultations among relevant actors, including recipient countries, in advance of any possible changes to the field presence of UNODC.

39. Several speakers noted the ongoing efforts of UNODC to continuously improve its management, administrative and financial processes. The developments in the area of risk management and risk mitigation were seen as positive. The commitment of the Office to successfully implementing the new United Nations Secretariat-wide enterprise resource planning project, Umoja, was noted, while concern was expressed regarding the impact of implementation of Umoja on programme delivery in the field and on the financial situation of UNODC. The Secretariat was requested to inform Member States on the progress made, including access to reporting information for Member States.

40. Regarding the staff composition of UNODC and related matters, many speakers expressed regret that the principle of equitable geographic distribution had not been reflected in the composition of the staff of UNODC. The Executive Director of UNODC was requested to take action to increase the representation of developing countries in the Secretariat, in particular at the professional, senior and policymaking levels in order to ensure equitable geographic representation.

41. Reference was made to General Assembly resolution 69/251, and it was noted that, although some progress had been made by the Office in achieving gender parity, further efforts were needed. The Executive Director was also requested to achieve equal representation of women at the senior and policymaking levels in order to reach 50/50 parity and to report on progress made to the Commissions at their next sessions. It was noted that equitable geographic distribution and gender parity would positively influence the effectiveness of the work of UNODC, and the Secretariat was requested to seek ways to improve its recruitment policies in order to recruit candidates from developing countries. The Executive Director was requested to submit to the Commissions at their next sessions, officially and in written form, documentation on the staff composition of UNODC, as well as on progress made in that regard.

42. The Secretariat was also encouraged to provide more information on how the distribution of regular budget posts within UNODC was related to the treaty-based functions and core mandates of the Office.

43. Regarding the strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 for UNODC, one speaker noted that UNODC should fully implement its mandates in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and universal legal instruments, as well as in line with the rules and procedures of UNODC, and that the balance between the different components of the Office's activities should be ensured. It was noted that the programme of work should be aligned with the objectives and goals of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review of its implementation. Support was expressed for the strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, which was before the Commission for its review.

44. The importance of a cohesive, programmatic reporting framework, regular and comprehensive reporting, accountability, a culture of evaluation and linkages to result-based management was underlined. The important work of the Independent Evaluation Unit was highlighted, and appreciation was expressed for the resumption of publication, in 2015, of the UNODC annual report.

45. Reference was made to the need for UNODC to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon request, with the provision of adequate, predictable and stable funding for that purpose.

B. Action taken by the Commission

46. At its joint meeting with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, on 10 December 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs took note of Economic and Social Council decision 2015/234, in which the Council extended the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, until the sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to be held in the first half of 2017, and elected Hernán Estrada Román (Nicaragua), and Ignacio Baylina Ruíz (Spain), as co-chairs of the working group in accordance with the procedure set out in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3.

47. At its 4th meeting, on 11 December, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution entitled "Budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme". (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I, sect. B, resolution 58/12.)

Chapter IV

Implementation of the international drug control treaties

48. At the 4th meeting of its reconvened fifty-eighth session, the Commission considered sub-item (b), "Changes in the scope of control of substances", of agenda item 6, entitled "Implementation of the international drug control treaties".

49. For its consideration of item 6, the Commission had before it a conference room paper containing an extract from the report on the thirty-seventh meeting of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, convened from 16 to 20 November 2015, at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva (E/CN.7/2015/CRP.10).

50. An audiovisual presentation was made by the observer for the World Health Organization (WHO).

51. Statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, China and the United States.

Deliberations

52. Pursuant to Commission resolution 58/11, the observer for WHO presented to the Commission information on the review process undertaken by the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence at its thirty-seventh meeting, held in Geneva from 16 to 20 November 2015, and its scheduling recommendations, in preparation for the forthcoming scheduling decisions to be taken by the Commission at its fifty-ninth regular session.

53. Speakers expressed appreciation to WHO for the work of its Expert Committee, and for the information provided, especially in view of the grave threat posed by new psychoactive substances. The use by WHO of a surveillance list to monitor new psychoactive substances was welcomed. WHO was requested to make the surveillance list easily accessible to States and to proactively engage with Member States and international organizations in collecting data on the substances on that list. Furthermore, Member States and international organizations were requested to provide data to support WHO in determining the timing of the review of the substances included in the surveillance list. WHO was also requested to inform the Commission on the provisional timetable for the next meeting of the Expert Committee in order to help Member States to provide information to support the process in its early stages.

54. One speaker expressed the hope that WHO would address the relationship between international scheduling and the availability of substances for medical use in a more balanced way. The speaker expressed regret regarding the decisions by WHO on the issue of scheduling of ketamine. He noted that although ketamine had some medical uses, it posed a serious threat to human health, and referred to the increasing trend of ketamine abuse both in East Asia and around the world. The speaker noted that continued attention should be paid to the harm and risks relating to the abuse of ketamine.

55. Reference was made to the importance of data collection and of ensuring that WHO had the necessary data to conduct reviews. States were urged to provide data directly to WHO, to continue to work closely with the UNODC global SMART programme and the International Narcotics Control Board Project Ion Task Force and to share the data with other States. The possibility of States applying provisional control measures at the national level was mentioned. WHO was encouraged to address the backlog of substances and to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances. Furthermore, the identification of new and innovative solutions and enhanced coordination between the Commission and the WHO Expert Committee were encouraged.

Chapter V

Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission

56. At its 4th meeting, on 11 December, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled "Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission". The Chair introduced the item and brought to the attention of the Commission matters relating to the organization of work for its fifty-ninth session.

A. Deliberations

1. Duration of the fifty-ninth session and other arrangements

57. The Commission decided that the regular fifty-ninth session of the Commission would be held from Monday, 14 March to Tuesday, 22 March 2016, with pre-session consultations to be held on 11 March 2016, and that the special segment would be held from Monday, 14 March to Wednesday, 16 March 2016. Furthermore, the Commission decided that it would hold its reconvened fifty-ninth session on 1 and 2 December 2016.

58. The Commission also decided that, in accordance with its decision 55/1, the firm deadline for the submission of draft resolutions would be one month in advance of the commencement of the session, namely Monday, 15 February 2016 at noon.

2. Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission

59. The Chair of the Commission recalled that, in its decision 2015/238, the Economic and Social Council had approved the provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission. Furthermore, it was decided that the preliminary agenda for the special segment on the preparations for the special session would be based on Commission decision 58/15.

B. Action taken by the Commission

60. At its 4th meeting, on 11 December 2015, the Commission decided on the dates, deadlines and arrangements for its fifty-ninth session (see paras. 57-59, above).

Chapter VI

Other business

61. At its 4th meeting, on 11 December 2015, the Commission considered agenda item 10, entitled "Other business". No issues were raised under the agenda item.

Chapter VII

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its reconvened fifty-eighth session

62. At its 5th meeting, on 11 December 2015, the Commission adopted the parts of its report on the organization of the session and administrative matters and on item 3 of the agenda (E/CN.7/2015/L.1/Add.6-7). The Commission decided that, in line with past practice, the present report would be brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council and that a draft decision transmitting the report of the Commission on its reconvened fifty-eighth session to the Economic and Social Council for adoption would be included in the report on the reconvened session. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. A.) The Commission also decided to entrust the finalization of the report to the Chair of the Commission, with the assistance of the Rapporteur.

Chapter VIII

Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

63. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its reconvened fifty-eighth session in Vienna from 9 to 11 December 2015. The reconvened session included a special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

64. In its resolution 58/8, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided that, in preparation for the special session, it would hold formal meetings following its fifty-eighth session, including two formal meetings during its reconvened fifty-eighth session, in December 2015.

65. At its fifty-eighth session, in March 2015, the Commission adopted decision 58/14, entitled "Provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the reconvened fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016".

66. Furthermore, the Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2011/259, entitled "Joint meetings of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", decided that, starting in 2011, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold joint meetings during their reconvened sessions for the sole purpose of considering agenda items included in the operational segment of the agendas of both Commissions, with a view to providing integrated policy directives to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on administrative, budgetary and strategic management issues. The Council also decided that the practice of holding back-to-back reconvened sessions of the Commissions would be continued to enable each Commission to consider, in separate meetings, agenda items included in the normative segment of its agenda.

67. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held a total of five meetings at its reconvened fifty-eighth session. The 1st meeting was devoted to both the regular part and the special segment on the special session. Three meetings were devoted to the special segment: the 1st, the 2nd and part of the 5th meetings. Pursuant to Council decision 2011/259, the Commission held one joint meeting with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in order to consider item 3 of the agendas of both Commissions, and two other, separate meetings, on 11 December 2015.

68. At the 1st meeting, on 9 December 2015, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs opened the reconvened fifty-eighth session.

B. Attendance

69. The reconvened fifty-eighth session was attended by representatives of 44 States members of the Commission (9 were not represented). Observers for other

States Members of the United Nations, representatives of entities of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.7/2015/INF/3.

C. Documentation

70. The documents before the Commission at its reconvened fifty-eighth session are listed in E/CN.7/2015/CRP.7/Add.1.

D. Closure of the reconvened fifty-eighth session

71. At the 5th meeting, on 11 December, a closing statement was made by the Chair of the Commission.